BELLOWS FALLS OPERA HOUSE POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING, Nov. 18, 2019, 5:30 PM

Location: Rockingham town Hall - Third Floor Meeting Room

DRAFT MINUTES

Call to Order at 5:34 PM


Additions to the Agenda. J Sheehy shared there was an issue with the theater popcorn machine triggering a fire alarm at the opening night showing of the new ‘Downton Abbey’ film. See previous meeting notes for past discussion of the condition of the popcorn machine.

Approve Minutes of October 14, 2019. R Angers asked that #3 under BFOH Infrastructure Improvement/Maintenance be corrected to say, ‘The company that made the chairs no longer seems able to provide replacement parts.’ S Hammond moved, J Sheehy seconded approval of 10/14/19 minutes, with this correction.

Manager’s Report. R Angers reported there was good community response to the recent live theater presentation of ‘The Secret Garden’. A successful November fund raiser for the Historical Society was presented by Annette Spaulding. Approximately $100 in concession sales was realized in addition to a use fee of $150 and a sound system fee of $50. Set up/clean up of 6-8 hours will be charged at $20/hr. Classic Movies have resumed on the previous Wed/Thurs schedule. Classics have continued to find cost underwriting. ‘Stars Wars’ will run as a Classic during the Holiday season. There will be School Group Special Movies prior to the holiday periods, as there have been past years. Cost of the these films is negotiated with the movie studios. Profit to the Opera House is from concession sales. There will be a 12/8/19 Rotary movie run in this same manner.

BFOH Infrastructure Improvement/Maintenance List by R Angers/W Harrison. R Angers reported additional plaster has come down from the theater ceiling since this committee’s last meeting. E Howard raised the issues of devices to assist the hearing impaired who attend theater events. R Angers state he has been exploring the availability/potential of obtaining such equipment. R Angers and W Harrison are also exploring the possibility of obtaining grant funds to cover expenses connected with said equipment.

BFOH Theatrical Equipment Improvement List by D Stern. D Stern has been talking with Production Advantage re potential piping to hang flies. This has fallen behind schedule and this particular item/project may be shelved and the currently available $6,500 may be reallocated to #2, the Front of House Fly Truss lighting/sound arrangement identified as a priority need during the 10/14/19 committee meeting. per notes.

Review of Agenda Items for Next Meeting. There will be a Community-wide meeting during the day and evening of 12/4/19 addressing various community needs and interests, including Arts and Culture, The Moose Club, the Library and the American Legion will serve as sites for various groups to meet. Free transportation and a free dinner will be provided.
There is a possibility to apply for Rural Development Grant funds to underwrite/pay for identified projects. The Committee will present a letter to the Select Board for consideration at their 12/3/19 budget Meeting. D Stern and C Hunter will work on this. W Harrison will attempt to put together a Capital Improvement Plan for the Opera House.

Next Meeting scheduled for Mon 1/6/20 5:30 PM at the Rockingham Town Hall in either the Lower Theater or Third Floor Meeting Room.

Adjourned 6:29 PM. Motion by E Howard, seconded M Rowley. Voted unanimously.